

DEMOCRATIC BUDGET SHOWS COMMITMENT TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

With our nation facing tremendous job losses, security threats, skyrocketing consumer prices, and an increased risk of global warming, it is critical that we look to transition away from our dependence on foreign oil and invest in the development of clean and efficient sources of energy that can be produced here at home and will create American jobs. That is why one of the primary principles in the President's budget is to increase America's energy independence and security. The House Democratic budget embraces that goal, including short- and long-term plans for achieving energy independence to ensure the security of our nation, create jobs, and build a clean energy future.

Democrats Put Nation on a Path to a Clean Energy Future

"[This budget] must reduce our dependence on dangerous foreign oil and finally put this nation on a path to a clean, renewable energy future. There is no longer a doubt that the jobs and industries of tomorrow will involve harnessing renewable sources of energy. The only question is whether America will lead that future. I believe we can and we will."

– President Barack Obama, 3/21/09

"The energy imperative we face is to diversify the nation's energy supplies and reduce our foreign dependence, especially on oil from the Middle East, which imperils our national security. The environmental imperative is to protect the planet from global warming...And the economic imperative is to provide an engine to drive the nation out of the recession."

– Chairman Henry A. Waxman, Chairman Emeritus John Dingell, and Subcommittee Chairmen Rep. Edward J. Markey and Rep. Rick Boucher, 3/27/09

The House Democratic budget supports the President's goals for addressing energy to increase America's energy independence and security. The budget proposes greater investments in clean, domestic sources of profitable energy, including wind and solar power, advanced biofuels, fuel-efficient automobiles that can be manufactured here in America, nuclear energy, and capturing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels like coal.

- **Makes critical investments in energy** with \$1 billion (18.4 percent) more in appropriated funding for 2010 than the 2009 level of regular appropriations
- **Includes a deficit-neutral reserve fund** for legislation to promote energy independence, spur the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and help businesses, industries, states, communities, and households adjust to an economy with reduced emissions levels
- **Provides job opportunities in the new energy economy and relief for Americans**
 - Creates "green collar" jobs to help address rising unemployment and keep jobs in America
 - Provides tax incentives for renewable energy
 - Funds weatherization to help low-income families save \$350 per year (on average) on their energy bills

Prepared by the Office of Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, 3/31/09